MINISTRY OF HEALTH

BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1939.

T. P. EDWARDS, M.D., B.S.(Lond.), D.P.H.(Cant.)

L. A. STROUD, M.R. San. Inst.

Owing to the present emergency, the Ministry of Health have intimated that Annual Reports as in previous years should not be prepared but that their place should be taken by an interim Report which should be confined to essential and urgent matters affecting Public Health during the year. These recommendations are based on the increasing pressure of work in Public Health Departments of Local Authorities, and also the need of strict economy in the use of paper.

It is pointed out, however, that the statistics have to be preserved in order that after the termination of the War, a Report can be made dealing more fully with the period of hostilities.

The Registrar-General's statistics have only recently come to hand (at the end of September) and it was thought advisable that the chief statistics should be included.

POPULATION

The Registrar-General has estimated the mid-year population as 25,870. Presumably this estimate is previous to the outbreak of hostilities and it must be remembered that towards the end of the year, a large influx of additional population occurred through the Borough being scheduled as a reception area. In all, 2,500 children of school age and under school age came to Wrexham and in addition a large number of labourers came to the Borough in reference to the construction of an important factory in the Rural District, so it is safe to state that the actual population will be nearer 30,000. As an offset to this, a large number of evacuees have returned to Liverpool.

It would have been expected that the influx of such an increase in the population would have resulted in increased incidence of Infectious Disease, but it is satisfactory to note that this increase in population had practically no effect seeing that there were very few cases of infectious disease amongst the evacuees or other temporary additions to our population.

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)		2,916 acres
Population (mid. 1939) (Registrar General's estimation)		25,870
Rateable Value of the Borough (31st Mar. 1940)		£158,789
Sum presented by a penny rate		£600
Corporation Houses		1,775
Houses built:-	Corporation	150
	Private	73
	Total.	223

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Population.....25,870 (Mid. 1939)
(Registrar General's Estimate)

BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births Legitimate	198	178	376
Live Births Illegitimate	12	8	20
TOTAL	210	186	396

Birth Rate .....11.4 England & Wales 15

Total No. of Stillbirths 25

DEATHS

Male	Female	Total
216	163	379

Death Rate .....14.4. Adjusted Death Rate..... 15.5
Comparability Factor..... 1.08 England and Wales ..... 12.1.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth:-

1. From Sepsis 1
2. From other causes 1

2.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births:-

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	15	9	24
Illegitimate	-	1	1
TOTAL	15	10	25

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE:-

Legitimate	63.4
Illegitimate	50.0
TOTAL ..	62.8 (England & Wales..50.0)

CANCER DEATHS

There were 29 male and 18 female deaths during the year, making a total of 47.

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NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

During the year, the following cases were notified:-

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Total Deaths
Small Pox	-	-
Scarlet Fever	94	-
Diphtheria	69	7
Pneumonia	50	17
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	2
Erysipelas	13	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	16 (5 civilians 11 non-civilians)	1 (non-civ.)
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	1	1
Measles	3	-
Whooping Cough	1	1
TOTALS	255	29

FEVER HOSPITAL STATEMENT FOR 1939

	Scarlet Fever	Diph-theria	Erys-ipelas	C.S.F.	Others	Total.
Remaining in Hospital, December, 1938.....	6	2	-	-	-	8
Admitted during the year 1939.....	82	62	8	16	13	181
Discharged during the year 1939.....	77	52	8	12	13	162
Remaining in Hospital December, 1939.....	11	6	-	3	-	20
Deaths in Hospital during 1939.....	-	6	-	1	-	7

TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1939

NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
18	17	6	2	7	11	3	1
35		8		18		4	

DIPHTHERIA

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year was 69 as compared with 74 for 1938. The number of deaths was 7 as compared with 8 in 1938.

IMMUNISATIONS

During the year, the following cases were dealt with:-

Schick Test

Positive 2
Negative 9

Dick Test

Positive .....Nil
Negative 1

Immunisations

No. completed from last year..... 1
No. completed during the year..... 46
No. uncompleted at end of year..... 12.

SCARLET FEVER

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year was 94 as compared with 66 in 1938. There were no deaths during the year.

PNEUMONIA

The number of cases of Pneumonia notified during the year was 50 as compared with 31 in 1938. There were 17 deaths during the year as compared with 21 in 1938.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

There were no cases notified during the year.

SMALLPOX

There were no cases of smallpox notified during the year.

VACCINATION - STATISTICS FOR THE WREXHAM AREA

Total Births	779
Successfully Vaccinated	141
Insusceptible	1
No. had Smallpox	-
Conscientious Objectors	477
Died Unvaccinated	28
Postponed by Medical Certificate	40
Unaccounted for	4
Removed	88

ENTERIC FEVER

There were no cases of Enteric Fever notified during the year.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

During the year, there were 8 cases notified as compared with 10 in 1938. There were 2 deaths during the year.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER

During the year Cerebro-spinal Fever broke out and in respect to this outbreak, a comprehensive report has been prepared and has received attention from the Health Committee. Up to 31st December, 5 civilians were admitted from the Borough, 2 of these were R.D.C. cases admitted through the War Memorial Hospital. Of the other 3, one was admitted for observation but was found not to be suffering from the disease. One nurse who had been nursing C.S.F. cases in Croesnewydd Hospital was admitted and 1 other civilian case. In addition to this, there were 11 non-civilian cases and of these, one died.

The outbreak was fully discussed in the Health Committee and representatives of the Borough met representatives of the Army at the Barracks and discussed various aspects of the outbreak, special attention being paid to the state of the billets in the town. These were subsequently inspected by me in conjunction with the Medical Officer of the Barracks and a report was included in my Report on the outbreak.

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AMBULANCE FACILITIES

(a) INFECTIOUS CASES - Motor ambulance attached to the Wrexham Fever Hospital.

(b) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES - Motor Ambulance attached to the St. John Ambulance Association - Wrexham Branch.

The following report has been received from the Honorary Secretary of the Local Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association.

Number of cases carried (not including accidents)	1437	Mileage 12743
Number of Accidents (Road)	109	Mileage 530
Total Cases	1546	Mileage 13273

Total number of cases where First Aid was rendered..... 375
Public functions attended 358
Attendances at functions number 1217
Total hours of duty given voluntarily by men.....11591 hours.

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MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE

No. of Mothers with Babies attending Centre 884
Total attendance of mothers with babies 10,721
Average Sessional Attendance (per baby)..... 12.123
Average Sessional Attendance 107.21
No. of Medical Consultations 815
Ante-Natal Cases 148
Ante-Natal Attendances 532
Post-Natal cases 11
Post-Natal attendances 11

Arrangements were made for expectant mothers from the Mersey-side areas to be billeted at Bersham Hall previous to going to Derwen Hall, Marchwiel for their confinement. This Hall served a useful purpose, but it has since been closed owing to the diminution in the number of expectant mothers arriving in Wrexham after the first rush of cases.

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WATER SUPPLY

During the year, one sample of water was taken and was found to be excellent both chemically and bacteriologically.

RAINFALL

During the year 30.32 inches of rainfall fell in the Borough, as compared with 27.43 inches in 1938. I am indebted to the Rev. T. O. Jones, Beechley Road for these figures.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM

During the year, new sewers in Rhosddu and Rhosnessney areas were completed at a cost of approximately £19,000. Discussions took place with reference to additional works at the Sewage Disposal Works in Marchwiel to take in the sewage from the new factory in Marchwiel.

These works commenced in 1940.

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AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

Following the outbreak of hostilities, it was found necessary to train a large number of personnel in order to man the different First Aid Posts and Parties in the Borough of Wrexham.

Two Mobile First Aid Posts have been established at the War Memorial Hospital and Croesnewydd Hospital. Two Fixed First Aid Posts have been established at the War Memorial Hospital and Croesnewydd Hospital. Five First Aid Parties have been established and these are now located at Bodhyfryd Ambulance Depot, War Memorial Hospital and Croesnewydd Hospital. Two First Aid Points have been established at the Institute, Spring Lodge, and the Craft Centre, Tuttle Street.

These arrangements have been determined after consultation with the County Health Authorities. The question has arisen as to whether the number of First Aid Parties is sufficient in the Borough seeing that two of them are working in close collaboration with the Mobile Units. It has to be remembered that the Borough of Wrexham may have to serve the outlying rural areas in an emergency.

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Annual Report of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee
Borough of Wrexham.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Third Annual Report upon the work performed by your Sanitary Inspectors in connection with the Sanitary and Housing Administration and the supervision of food supplied within the Borough during the year 1939.

The growing volume of routine work in its manifold aspects is detailed in the body of the report which has been unavoidably curtailed but gives a comprehensive survey of the work accomplished during the year under review.

Further progress was continued in Housing, a large number of families displaced from condemned property being re-housed and a number of cases of overcrowding abated by the provision of the Whitegate Housing Estate. Unfortunately, it became necessary to suspend further activity in connection with Housing work in September at the commencement of hostilities.

The only change in the personnel of the staff, was the departure of Mr. John Morris, clerk, for military service and the temporary appointment of Miss M. McQuistin in his stead.

Once more I have to acknowledge with gratitude the encouraging support given to me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and my thanks are also due to Dr. T. P. Edwards for his kindness and help, and to every member of my staff for their loyal co-operation, for upon these things depend the continued march of progress.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

L. A. STROUD, M.R. San. Inst.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL SUMMARY

Total Inspections made during the year	10,583
Number of Complaints received	257
Preliminary Notices served	121
Preliminary Notices complied with	135
Statutory Notices served	8
Statutory Notices complied with.....	8

Total number of Letters received by the Department ... 301
Total number of Letters dispatched by the Department.1,163
Interviews with Builders, Owners and Agents 447

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

(a) COMMON LODGING HOUSES,

There were seven common lodging houses affording accommodation for 107 persons in 32 rooms, including one house used for accommodating married couples.

Re-registration of 2 of these houses with accommodation for 17 persons was refused at the end of the year, owing to the unsatisfactory condition for the accommodation of lodgers, and ceased to be used for that purpose. Certain improvements have been carried out at the remaining 5 premises so as to provide sufficient sanitary accommodation, facilities for personal ablutions and means of escape in the case of fire.

The premises are kept under close supervision and are frequently inspected: 161 inspections were made during the year. A revision of the Bye-Laws for controlling this class of premises is under consideration.

During the year, legal proceedings were instituted against a person keeping as a lodging house certain premises unsuitable for the purpose and not being a Registered Keeper thereof. This resulted in the premises being vacated.

(b) HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINS.

Very few premises within the Borough are used as houses-let-in-lodgings and usually conditions are not too satisfactory in this type of premises, due to the practice of adapting them without structural alteration. Supervicion is found to be difficult in these premises with the type of tenants so often in occupation.

(c) CELLAR DWELLINGS

As far as can be ascertained there are no cellar dwellings in Wrexham used for human habitation.

(d) MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Eighteen visits were made in respect of illicit camping with caravans in various parts of the Borough. In each case, the Owner of the ground or the occupier of the caravans were persuaded to cease using these Unlicensed camping Sites for the purpose. It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings.

(e) OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are 26 trades legally defined as "Offensive Trades" carried on within the Borough, in respect of which 52 inspections were made.

(f) SLAUGHTERHOUSES (private)

There were 5 private slaughterhouses existing during the year.

Frequent inspections were made in connection with meat inspection by the Department and during the year, a total of 1,533 day and evening visits were made for that purpose.

(g) SLAUGHTERHOUSES (Public Abattoir)

The Public Abattoir continued to work satisfactorily and there was a steady increase in the use of the Abattoir throughout the year. There were 1,643 day and evening visits made to the Abattoir for the inspection of meat.

An Additional Pig Lairage on the site of the Abattoir was completed during the year.

MUNICIPAL ABATTOIR TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st March, 1939

This account shows a deficit of £858. 17. 9d.

(h) PLACES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT

Little nuisance was experienced from the keeping of swine and other animals, 10 inspections being made during the year for this purpose.

HOUSE DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

A total of 210 visits were made in supervising improvements and reconstruction work in connection with the drainage systems of houses and other buildings. Nine existing drains suspected of being defective were opened and examined. The drains of 26 premises were reconstructed during the year in addition to many minor amendments of drainage systems and the Department supervised the laying of 514 feet of stoneware drain and 12 feet of cast-iron drain and applied 23 hydraulic tests and 31 smoke tests to drain and soil and ventilating pipes.

In every case in which new drainage work is executed, plans are made and filed by the Department for future reference.

Four warnings were given to builders and contractors regarding the contravention of the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the necessity of giving the requisite 24 hours notice to the Local Authority of intention to repair, reconstruct or alter drains.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

Number of complaints of Smoke nuisances received	3
Number of observations made of Industrial Chimneys.....	40
Number of nuisances obderved	9
Number of Statutory Notices served	Nil
Number of Intimation Notices served	8
Number of visits to works and interviews with Engineers and owners	5
Approximate number of Industrial Chimneys in the Borough...	23

No statutory action was taken in respect of smoke nuisances. In each case investigations were made as to the causes of the excessive and unnecessary emissions and recommendations were made in relation to stoking management and improvements to plant, especially in connection with brick-works and breweries.

No nuisance has been experienced from the emission of grit and dust but complaints of nuisances from fumes from a factory steam-raising plant in which the fuel is wood waste were investigated.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928

There are no manufactures of rag flock in the Borough, but there are firms who use rag flock in upholstery and furniture manufacture, most of whom purchase it from manufacturers who guarantee it to conform to the requirements of the Rag Flock Regulations, 1912. Three samples of rag flock were submitted for analysis during the year and were certified to contain 4, 8 and 240 parts per 100,000 of Soluble Chlorine respectively.

Further to my last report regarding the practice of using rag flock taken from articles of upholstery for remaking into new covers without steps being taken to ensure that the rag flock complied with the Government standard of cleanliness, in respect of which a letter of warning was sent to upholsterers regarding this practice, legal proceedings were instituted against an upholsterer in respect of the latter sample mentioned above which contained a high Chlorine content, this being in respect of rag flock taken from old articles in the course of repair and stored for the purpose of being made into new upholstery work. No further recurrence of this practice has been observed.

RIVER POLLUTION

Frequent visits are made from time to time to time to various points of the streams within the Borough at which trade effluents are discharged.

DISINFECTION

During the year investigations were made into the following notifiable diseases, viz:- 69 Diphtheria, 94 Scarlet Fever, 20 Tuberculosis and Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. Six hundred and seventy rooms were disinfected by fumigation and spraying. 823 articles of bedding and clothing were treated by steam disinfection. 145 library and other books were disinfected or destroyed, and 8 other articles were destroyed.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Nine complaints were received and 27 inspections were made in connection with the infestation of dwelling houses by bed bugs. Disinfestation work was carried out by the Department at 5 Corporation houses and 6 privately owned houses, fumigation being by means of a sulphur preparation which has given satisfactory results.

Inspection was made of 28 Corporation houses which became vacant during the year for detecting bug infestation, and the homes of prospective tenants of such houses were also visited. Where bug infestation was evident, the furniture was treated by spraying with an insecticide such as "Flypic" or "Zaldecide" at the time of removal. Tenants of Corporation houses are encouraged to report any verminous infestation immediately.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

There were 13 inspections made of places licensed for entertainment.

SHOPS ACTS 1912 to 1936.

Twenty-one shops were inspected under Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934, which relates to the provision in every shop in which persons are employed of suitable means of ventilation, lighting, temperature, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, and facilities for taking meals.

In 2 cases notices were served for the provision of additional sanitary accommodation.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF OFFICES

Sanitary accommodation and facilities for washing are investigated as occasion arises for visits to be made to Offices. As yet it has not been found possible to make a survey of the various offices in order to ascertain their sanitary condition. This, in my opinion, is a matter of some importance and routine inspections should be made from time to time.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Thirty-two dwelling houses, the subject of Clearance and Demolition Orders, were demolished during the year.

Eighteen dwelling houses, the subject of Demolition and Closing Orders, were dealt with under Part 11 of the Act.

An Appeal to the County Court regarding 4 houses in respect of which a Demolition Order was made by the Council in lieu of accepting a proposed scheme of re-conditioning which, in the opinion of the Council, was not a satisfactory one, was dismissed with costs for the Corporation.

It was not found possible to carry out any systematic house-to-house inspection under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. It is hoped this work will be resumed as soon as possible as it is now some years since it was last done.

The work of reconditioning working class houses has continued where complaint has been received, 113 houses having been made fit in consequence of informal action by the Department. One statutory notice requiring repairs was served during the year. Much time has been spent by your Sanitary Inspectors in interviewing Owners and Builders for the purpose of advising upon the satisfactory execution of work of a reasonably high standard.

REHOUSING

This year has been an unusually heavy one for the Department in relation to the rehousing of tenants displaced from unfit houses which were the subject of Clearance, Compulsory Purchase, Demolition and Closing Orders.

A total of 134 families consisting of 444 people were rehoused during the year. In each case, the furniture and effects were removed by the Corporation free of charge and subjected to disinfestation treatment by Hydrogen Cyanide Gas. This part of the work was carried out by a firm of specialists.

After being vacated, the old houses were subjected to fumigation by a sulphur compound so as to obviate as far as possible the danger of bug infested materials from demolished houses causing infestation at premises at which they were subsequently stored or utilised.

PERCENTAGE OF OVERCROWDING IN DWELLING HOUSES

	At Dec. 31st, 1938	At Dec. 31st, 1939
Privately Owned Houses.....	2.11	1.15
Corporation Owned Houses....	3.13	1.95
All Houses in the Borough...	2.78	1.47

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

MILK AND DAIRIES

The number of persons registered as wholesale purveyors and producers of milk within the Borough is 33, and as retail purveyors 86, making a total of 119. There are 20 registered cow-keepers with approximately 316 cows; also 59 dairies and milkshops.

During the year 7 Dealers' Licences were issued under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DESIGNATED AND NON-DESIGNATED MILK

During 1939 there were 122 samples of milk submitted by this Department for bacteriological examination as compared with 117 in 1938 and 51 in 1937, including samples of milk sold under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936. Of these, 50 samples were of milk produced within the Borough, and 23 samples were of Pasteurised milk supplied to Elementary School children.

An analysis of the results shows that of the total samples taken 9.0% were reported to be unsatisfactory as compared with 6.8% in 1938, and as regards designated milks 8.6% being the same percentage as in 1938.

Five samples of Pasteurised Milk were also submitted to the Phosphatase Test and gave satisfactory results.

BIOLOGICAL TESTING OF MILK FOR THE PRESENCE OF LIVING TUBERCLE BACILLI

Forty-eight samples of designated and non-designated milks were submitted for bological testing during the year as compared with 43 in 1938. Four of the samples which were produced by "Accredited" herds or 8.3% gave positive results, and affected cows were reported to have been ultimately eliminated from the respective herds by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as a result of the preliminary action of this Department.

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

There are 28 registered premises under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, at which ice cream is manufactured or sold. The premises have all been inspected and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Particular attention has been given to the manufacture of ice-cream and a total of 24 samples were submitted to the Dairy Bacteriologist of Bangor University for bacteriological examination and quality tests, for advisory purposes by the Department. These samples represented the products of both manufacturers on a large scale whose principal business is the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and local manufacturers who deal in this commodity in a lesser

degree and in many cases as subsidiary to their principal business.

Twelve of the samples were adversely reported upon by reason of excessive bacterial count and the presence of Bacillus Coli. All these were followed by letters of warning, offers of advice and the procuring of further samples of ice-cream in the various stages of manufacture and in some cases, the milk and cream constituents.

The butter-fat content of the 24 samples ranged from 1.6% to 11.3% giving an average content of 6.1%.

Letters were sent to four manufacturers drawing attention to the particularly low butter-fat content of ice-cream samples procured from them and further samples showed marked improvement.

MEAT INSPECTION

One hundred per cent of the animals slaughtered in the Borough of Wrexham at the Public Abattoir and Private Slaughter-houses were inspected. The total number of animals inspected was 26,144 of which 2,035 were found to be abnormal.

UNSOUND FOOD SEIZED AND VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED

The total amount of meat and other foods deemed to be unfit for human consumption and, with one exception, voluntarily surrendered, amounted to 13 tons, 15 cwts. 2 qrs. 9 lbs. as compared with 13 tons. 16 cwts. 2 qrs. 5 lbs in 1938 and 15 tons 19 cwts. 1 qr. 4 lbs. in 1937.

It was found necessary to make one Formal Seizure of diseased meat during the year, this being a case in which a carcase of pork was found to have had the evidence of disease removed during the process of slaughtering and dressing. After giving consideration to all the facts of the case, the Health Committee decided not to institute legal proceedings, and the persons in whose possession the carcase was found were given a warning.

The whole of the diseased meat and offal was disposed of by treatment for the recovery of fats, etc., for commercial purposes, the price obtained, less costs incidental to such disposal, being returned to the Butcher. The remainder of the unsound food was destroyed at the Corporation Destructor.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

At December 31st, 1939, 30 Slaughtermen's Licences issued by the Corporation were in force, and during the year 3 new licences to slaughter animals were granted.

The provisions of the Act have, on the whole, been well observed.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924

I would again place on record the co-operation of the Meat Traders in Wrexham and District which greatly facilitated the work of Meat Inspection at the Public Abattoir, the Private Slaughterhouses and in Retail Shops. The quality of meat slaughtered in the Borough is particularly good, and 100% inspection of animals slaughtered for food was again achieved by the Department.

A few contraventions of the Regulations relating to failure to take reasonable precautions to protect meat exposed for sale in open shop windows from contamination by the blowing of dirt and dust were observed, and were dealt with by informal action.

RETAIL MARKETS

Two hundred and eleven inspections were made to food stalls at which meat, fish, green grocery and other perishable commodities are sold in the Butchers' General and Vegetable retail covered markets.

STREET VENDORS OF FOOD

Inspection of foodstuffs such as meat and fish hawked from vehicles and intended for the food of man, was made from time to time.

A Resolution adopted by the Council in pursuance of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and approved by the Minister of Health, requires Dealers of all kinds of food, except milk, selling or offering such food for sale in a place of public resort from a stall, cart, barrow or other vehicle or container to have his name and address legibly and conspicuously displayed on the stall, cart, barrow or other vehicle or container, came into operation on the 31st January, 1940.

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF PRESERVED FOOD

Under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, it is now necessary for premises used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale to be registered for this purpose by the Local Authority.

Each Application for Registration is carefully investigated with reference to the suitability of the premises for the purpose for which they are proposed to be used, and there are 10 premises now on the Register. Consideration of 5 Applications were deferred to enable work of improvement to be carried out.

FOODS AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928 AND THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into force on the 1st October, 1939, replacing and consolidating the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and other enactments. A special report was submitted to the Health Committee by your Chief Sanitary Inspector, outlining the provisions of the new Act and alterations in the Law, as affecting the Borough.

An Application was made to the Minister of Health under the provisions of Section 64 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for his direction that the Corporation should become the Food and Drugs Authority, in lieu of the Denbighshire County Council, for the Borough of Wrexham. This Application was made after careful consideration had been given to the greater efficiency which it was felt would result from the granting of such an application, and in view of the recommendation of the Local Government and Public Health Consolidation Committee and the fact that the Borough of Wrexham is able to satisfy the conditions laid down therein.

The Welsh Board of Health, however, declined to grant the Application and the Town Council ultimately decided to renew it in due course.